

REMARKS

Claims 22-42 are pending in the application. Claims 22-24 and 27 have been amended. Claim 26 has been canceled.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 26-35 and 38-42 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 26. Dependent claim 23 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis in view of the amendment to claim 22. Dependent claim 24 has been amended to delete the limitation added into independent claim 22. Dependent claim 27 has been amended to properly depend from amended claim 22. No new subject matter is believed to have been added by these amendments.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 Rejections

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,129,023 to Anderson et al. Claims 23-25, 36 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,129,023 to Anderson et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0180697 to De Marchi.

Independent claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 26. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 22, and dependent claims 23-25 and 36-37, depending directly or indirectly from claim 22, are allowable.

In view of the aforementioned amendments with respect to the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner, the rejections of claims 22-25 and 36-37 are hereby deemed moot.


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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of pending claims 22-25 and 27-42 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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